

Decision 16-09-022 September 15, 2016

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Triennial Cost Allocation Proceeding
Phase 1 Application of Southern California
Gas Company (U 904 G) and San Diego
Gas & Electric Company (U902G) for
Authority to Revise their Natural Gas
Rates Effective January 1, 2016.

Application 14-12-017
(Filed December 18, 2014)

DECISION CLOSING PROCEEDING

Summary

On December 18, 2014, Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) and San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E) filed Application (A.) 14-12-017, its *Triennial Cost Allocation Proceeding Phase 1 Application of Southern California Gas Company (U904G) and San Diego Gas & Electric Company (U 902 G) for Authority to Revise their Natural Gas Rates Effective January 1, 2016.*

Following the close of evidentiary hearings in Phase 1, SoCalGas, SDG&E, the Office of Ratepayer Advocates, The Utility Reform Network, the Indicated Shippers, the City of Long Beach, and Southwest Gas Corporation filed a joint motion "For Adoption of Settlement Agreement for Certain Phase 1 Issues."

SoCalGas owns and operates the Aliso Canyon gas storage field (Aliso Canyon). On or about October 23, 2015, a massive leak at one gas well resulted in a cessation of storage injections at Aliso Canyon. Although the gas leak was permanently sealed on February 18, 2016, the future status of Aliso Canyon is presently unknown.

On June 23, 2016, we issued Decision (D.) 16-06-039. D.16-06-039 addressed the Phase 1 issues and adopted the jointly filed settlement agreement. In Ordering Paragraph (OP) 38 we stated that “Application 14-12-017 should remain open to further evaluate the impacts that the Aliso Canyon gas leak may have upon this proceeding.”

Although there are many issues pertaining to the Aliso Canyon leak that still need to be addressed, the Commission has other procedural vehicles to consider these issues. Therefore, we believe that it is appropriate to close this proceeding which primarily involved cost allocation issues, and pursue any Aliso Canyon matters in other available dockets.

1. Waiver of Comment Period

This is an uncontested matter in which the decision grants the relief requested. Accordingly, pursuant to Pub. Util. Code §311(g)(2) and Rule 14.6(c)(2) of the Commission’s Rules of Practice and Procedure, the otherwise applicable 30-day period for public review and comment is waived.

2. Assignment of Proceeding

Michael Picker is the assigned Commissioner and Gerald F. Kelly is the assigned Administrative Law Judge in this proceeding.

Findings of Fact

1. On June 23, 2016, the Commission issued D.16-06-039 which addressed the Phase 1 issues present in A.14-12-017 and the adoption of the settlement agreement.
2. OP 38 of D.16-06-039 left A.14-12-017 open so that the Commission could further evaluate whether the Aliso Canyon gas leak had any impact upon the issues presented in A.14-12-017.

3. The Commission has other procedural vehicles to explore issues raised by the Aliso Canyon gas leak.

Conclusions of Law

1. This proceeding should be closed.
2. This Order should be effective immediately.

O R D E R

THEREFORE IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Application 14-12-017 is closed.

This decision is effective today.

Dated September 15, 2016, at San Francisco, California.

MICHAEL PICKER

President

MICHEL PETER FLORIO

CATHERINE J.K. SANDOVAL

LIANE M. RANDOLPH

Commissioners

Commissioner Carla J. Peterman, being
necessarily absent, did not participate.